Electoral reforms to debar Non-Serious Candidates

2708. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether electoral reforms would be introduced to debar non-serious and unrecognised political parties and candidates from contesting elections;

(b) if so, by when the Amendment Bill to the relevant Acts would be introduced; and

(c) if not, the steps proposed to be taken to introduce such reforms?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) to (c) Attempt for discouraging non-serious candidates from contesting elections was made by the Representation of the People (Amendment) Act, 1996 whereby the amount of security deposits for contesting elections was substantially raised. Thereafter, the Law Commission of India, in its 170th Report, recommended debaring the independent candidates altogether from contesting elections. The government has not formed any view so far in respect of recommendations of the Law Commission. Apart from this, no other concrete proposal worth consideration in this regard has been received by the Government.

Family Courts in Delhi

2709. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision to create Family Courts in Delhi;

(b) whether Government have also decided to sanction posts of Judges and supporting staff as per newsitem appearing in the Hindu dated 9th March, 2000; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) : (a) : Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. 15 posts of Judges for 15 Family courts have been sanctioned along with supporting staff of 202 ancillary posts.